

Instructions of OKAMURA, Heiji,
the Commander of the "Ro" Group, June 10, 1939.

Instructions

It gives me a great pleasure to meet together with you, the generals of meritorious services, at the time when, thanks to their activities, the fighting in the south, the north and the central provinces have been successfully pacified and cleared of the enemies.

In accordance with my instructions given at the end of the last year, you have trained your forces, strengthened their fighting power, displayed the special ability of our forces in the battles of Nanking, Anlu and Hsientung as well as in stamping out the enemy from Lushan and Canton-Hankow Railway area, and thus my trust in you was made unswerving by your brilliant achievements and the prestige of our army, was infinitely glorified.

The enemies, though dejected by a series of defeats, are still found around us continuing maneuvers to no purpose.

We have recently been reinforced by two more new army corps in HUCHANG and HANKOW and are intending to despatch a part of our picked and experienced forces to the other fields before long to make a new array, at this time of alternation of forces, I should like to lay bare some points to which I expect you to conform, with a desire to have the whole army try to realize them in one accord.

1. You should keep in your heart the true meaning of the supreme command and thoroughly aware of the dignity of the commands, thereby enabling yourselves solemnly and quickly to display the essence of our Imperial army and maintain its morale for long.

As a commander, you should never in contradiction to the principles of command, neglect the lives of your men who are supposed to share their fate with you.

2. In view of the special environment of our army, you should speedily develop the fighting power, secure and stabilize the operation areas, save power for the time when it is actually needed and be ready for the offensive operations at a moment's notice.

3. In accordance with the experiences and lessons of many battles, you should complete the training of your men under an appropriate program, by seizing and utilizing any possible opportunity.

Above all, leading officials should train their character as commanders, develop their commanding ability and acquire confidence in performing their duties.

4. As for the concealment of intention, as well as in the maintenance of secrecy and prevention of espionage, the ideas of officers and men should be changed, and fostered fundamentally, and in its method of superintendence, a thorough reform and device must be carried out in order to be in a perfect state.

5. You should treasure and economize the munition materials, make inquiries into the way of supplying articles at the front, and at the

same time overcome the climate and plague peculiar to Central China to keep up men and horses as healthy as possible.

6. You should clarify the significance carrying out this sacred war, strive yourselves to defeat CHUNG Kai-shek on the one hand, and extend the spirit of loving the people on the other in order to win their heart completely, thereby making them rely upon us and co-operate with us in the great task of establishing a new Asia.

I expect that the forces under my command will, by recognizing their deserving position of being the advance guards of all in China, devote to battle formation to be ready for the future activities, and strive strenuously to attain the objects of this sacred war in answer to the responsibility to support the Imperial policy.

In conformity to my intention, you should cooperate, high and low, to attain the objects in view though we are yet far from such objects.

On this 10th day of June, 1939.

OKURA, Keiji,
Commander of the "Ro" Group.

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY

I, who occupy the post of a staff-officer of the then 11th Army, hereby certify that the document hereto attached, printed in Japanese consisting of 6 sheets and entitled "Instructions" is a document drafted by the 11th Army Headquarters on June 10, 1939.

Certified at Tokyo,
on this 27th day of February, 1947.

/s/ AMANO, Shoichi (seal)

I hereby certify that the above signature and seal were affixed hereto in the presence of the Witness.

At the same place,
on the same date.

Witness: /s/ MORIYAMA, Yoshio

-4-

Ref No # 1267

訓

示

南征北伐馳驅縱橫中原徵定シテ敗敵周隣ニ懾伏スルノ秋茲ニ再ヒ武勳
々タル將ヲ會シ親シク其ノ壯容ニ接スルハ予ノ誠ニ欣懷トスル所ナリ
惟フニ將ハ客年末ノ予カ訓示ヲ體シ克ク兵馬ヲ練リ戰力ヲ更張シ南昌
安陸、襄東ノ會戰ニ將又廬山、粵漢沿線ノ掃蕩ニ夫々兵四獨特ノ眞價ヲ
發揮シ偉大ナル戰績ヲ收メ克ク軍ノ威武ヲ宣揚シテ予カ從來將ニ倫ス
ル所ノ絶大ナル信頼ヲ更ニ牢固不拔ノモタラシメタリ
夫レ敵軍ハ連戰敗退ヲ重ネ抗戰勢ヲ殆ト衰退ニ瀕セリト雖モ尙我カ周邊
ニ蟬集シ徒ニ蠢動ヲ繼續ス

軍ハ藝ニ新銳二兵團ヲ武漢ニ迎ヘ近ク一部歷戰ノ精強ヲ他方面ニ送り陣
容更替ノ機ニ當ル乃チ茲ニ予カ諸將ニ待ツ所ノ要綱ヲ披瀝シ以テ舉軍一
體之カ具現ニ邁進センコトヲ期望ス

一統帥ノ本義ヲ銘肝シ指揮ノ尊嚴ニ遵徴シ之カ行使、服行一ニ嚴肅敏速
以テ克ク皇軍ノ精華ヲ發揮スルト共ニ久シキニ瀕リテ愈々堅忍ノ志氣

Ref No 1267

ヲ昂揚スベシ

又指揮官トシテ苟モ統率ノ要道ニ悖リ死生ヲ偕ニスハキ部下將兵ノ最期ヲ閑却スルカ如キコト絶無ナルヲ要ス

ニ軍獨特ノ環境ニ鑑ミ速ニ戦力ヲ更張シ作戰地域ノ確保安定ヲ圖リ克ク

彈發力ヲ蓄藏シテ隨時ノ進攻作戰ニ即應ノ準備ヲ完整スヘシ

ニ諸會戰ノ體驗教訓ニ基キ或ハ適切ナル企畫ノ下ニ或ハ機會ヲ捕捉活用

シ以テ訓練ノ精到ヲ期スヘシ

ニ幹部ヲシテ指揮官タルノ資質ヲ陶冶シ指揮技能ヲ向上セシメ其職責ノ遂行ニ確乎タル信念ヲ把握セシムルヲ要ス

四 企圖ノ秘匿、機秘密ノ保持、防諜ニ關シテハ將兵ノ觀念ヲ根本的ニ更

改鑄治シ其施策監督ヲ刷新工夫シ以テ秋毫ノ遺憾ナキヲ期スヘシ

五 軍需資材ヲ愛護節用シテ現地ニ沽キ且動クノ方途ヲ攻究實現スルト共

ニ山支特殊ノ風土、疫病ヲ克服シテ人馬ノ保健ヲ最高度ニ保持スヘシ

六 聖訓遂行ノ意義ヲ明徹ニシ戰力倒蔣ニ邁進スルト共ニ愛民ノ精神ヲ擴

充シ以テ協心興亞ノ大業ニ偕行スハキ皇軍信誼ノ民心ヲ收攬スルニ勉

Ref. No. 1267

ムヘシ

予ハ予ノ統率スル軍力在支皇軍ノ秘前衛タル地位ニ稽ハ真心陣容ヲ擴充
シテ同後ノ飛躍ニ備ヘ以テ皇謨眞實ノ負托ニ應ヘ一途聖職目的ノ貫徹ニ
邁進センコトヲ期ス
將士シテ予カ意ヲ盡シ愈々上下一氣左右策同以テ長途ノ前途ニ有終ノ
美果ヲ獲センコトヲ期スヘシ

昭和十四年六月十日

樺太司令部 岡村寧次

Ref + Loc #1267

文書ノ出所竝ニ成立ニ關スル證明書

自分ハ當時第十一軍參謀ノ職ニ居リシ者ナル處、茲ニ添付セラレタル日本語ニ依ツテ書カレ六枚ヨリ成ル訓示ト題スル書類ハ昭和十四年六月十日ニ第十一軍司令部ニ於テ作成セラレタル文書ナルコトヲ證明ス

昭和二十二年二月二十七日

於東京

天野正一

右署名捺印ハ目分ノ面前ニ於テ爲サレタリ

同日於同所

立會人 森山利雄